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Twana language

The **Twana** (**təw'ánəxʷ**) language, also known as **Skokomish** from one of the tribes that spoke it, belongs to the Salishan family of Native American languages. It is believed by some elders within the Skokomish community (such as Bruce Subiyay Miller) that the language branched off from Lushootseed (dxʷəlšucid) because of the region-wide tradition of not speaking the name of someone who died for a year after their death. Substitute words were found in their place and often became normalizing in the community, generating differences from one community to the next. Subiyay speculated that this process increased the drift rate between languages and separated Twana firmly from xʷəlšucid (Lushootseed).

The last fluent speaker died in 1980.[1]

The name "Skokomish" comes from the Twana *sqʷuqʷóʔbəš*, also spelled *sqWuqWu'b3sH*, and meaning "river people" or "people of the river".[3][4][5]

'tuwaduqutSid' Directly translated mean 'Twana Language' as where English would be 'past3dutSid' which means English language.

Twana	
Native to	United States
Region	East of Puget Sound, Washington state
Ethnicity	350 Twana (1977)[1]
Extinct	1980[1]
Language family	Salishan ▪ Coast Salish ▪ Central ▪ **Twana**
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	twa
Glottolog	twan1247 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/twan1247)[2]

Contents

Phonology
See also
References
External links

Phonology

Consonants

		Bilabial	Alveolar	Palatal	Lateral	Velar		Uvular		Glottal
						plain	lab.	plain	lab.	
Plosive	plain	p	t			k	kʷ	q	qʷ	ʔ
	ejective	pʼ	tʼ			kʼ	kʼʷ	qʼ	qʼʷ	
	voiced	b	d			(g)	(gʷ)			
Affricate	plain		ts	tʃ						
	ejective		tsʼ	tʃʼ	tɬʼ					
	voiced		(d͡z)	(d͡ʒ)						
Fricative			s	ʃ	ɬ	(x)	xʷ	χ	χʷ	h
Sonorant	plain	m	n	j	l		w			
	glottalized	ˀm		ˀj	ˀl		ˀw			

Vowel sounds present are [e ɛ ə o a].

Sounds in parentheses are found in loan words. The sound [x] is disputed to be a main sound.[6]

See also

- Lushootseed

References

1. Twana (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/twa/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Twana" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/twan1247). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Bright, William (2004). *Native American Placenames of the United States* (https://books.google.com/books?id=5XfxzCm1qa4C&pg=PA452). University of Oklahoma Press. p. 452. ISBN 978-0-8061-3598-4. Retrieved 3 November 2010.
4. Wray, Jacilee (2003). "Skokomish: Twana Descendants". *Native Peoples of the Olympic Peninsula: Who We Are* (https://books.google.com/books?id=ustxjL5p-y4C&pg=PA65). University of Oklahoma Press. p. 65. ISBN 978-0-8061-3552-6. Retrieved 3 November 2010.
5. The Skokomish Tribal Nation (http://hood.hctc.com/~skok1/)
6. Drachman, Gaberell (1969). *Twana Phonology*. Department of Linguistics, Ohio State University.

External links

- OLAC resources in and about the Twana language (http://www.language-archives.org/language/twa)

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